

Newspaper: Woonsocket Call

Date: June 29, 2007

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No reason we need 36 school districts

In response to the opinion piece: Flat education funding may be just the push schools and unions need

■ Mr. Bouchard and many, many others are right on the mark when it comes to consolidation of our 36 school districts that are currently run like mini-fiefdoms. There is no reason that a state the size of Rhode Island should have that many teachers' contracts, superintendents, supply contracts, and insurance contracts. I am currently working with other local and state leaders to put together a comprehensive piece of legislation that will address this problem. Even if we have more than one district, there is absolutely no justification to have more than five (by county). Rhode Island is small, compact, and it ought to be manageable. Under the current system, it is clear that this is not the case.

Rep. Jon D. Brien (Dist. 50), Woonsocket